(d) The Super Bazar, Delhi has informed that no such case has come to their notice so far.

Increase in the Issue Price of Rice and Wheat

1086. **SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:** will the Minister FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether issue price of rice and wheat has increased and if so, to what extent;

(b) whether the price of imported wheat is higher than domestic procurement; and

(c) whether the storage capacity is full with wheat and rice and the imported wheat is lying outside godowns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV) (a) The Central Issue Price (CIPs) of rice and wheat have not been increased after 1.6.1997. However, CIPs of fine and superfine rice were readjusted consequent upon the merger of these two categories into one category i.e. Grade 'A'.

(b) The domestic procurement of wheat is made at the minimum support price/procurement price announced by the Government for each marketing season. The price of imported wheat is, however, dependent on the prices prevailing in the international market at the time of contracting. Since import of wheat is resorted to with the objective of meeting, the shortfall in estimated production, the prices of domestic wheat and imported wheat are not comparable.

(c) Imported wheat has not created any storage problems.

Procurement Price of Wheat

1087. **SHRI N.R. DASARI:**
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to raise the procurement price of wheat considering the increase in prices of inputs; and

(b) the procurement price last announced, the increase in the prices of inputs since then and the proposed procurement price.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government fixed the minimum support price (MSP) of wheat at Rs. 455 per quintal for 1997-98 crop to be marketed in 1998-99 on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural costs and prices (CACP), views of State Governments and concerned Central Ministries and other relevant factors. The CACP takes into account the cost of imputs and other relevant factor for determining a remunerative price for wheat. Further, the Government have also announced a central bonus of Rs. 55 per quintal in additional to the minimum support prices of Rs. 465 per quintal for wheat procured during the period from Ist April, 1998 to 10 June, 1998 for Central Pool.

There is no proposal to increase the procurement price of wheat further.

Condition of Mortuary at Safdarjung Hospital

1088. **SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) wheher Government are aware of the horrible condition in the mortuary at the Safdarjung Hospital with the piling up of dead bodies due to inadequate space